

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of listings.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A hollow fiber membrane for blood purification, the hollow fiber membrane having a an integrally continuous structure from the inner membrane surface to the outer membrane surface and comprising a hydrophobic polymer and a hydrophilic polymer, and exhibiting a zeta potential on the inner surface thereof of greater than -3.0 mV but less than 0 mV at pH 7.5, when measured using a sample with an embedded resin on the outer side for allowing the electrolyte solution to flow through only the inside of the hollow fiber, and using a 0.001 mol/l potassium chloride aqueous solution as an electrolyte solution.

2. (Currently amended) The follow fiber membrane for blood purification according to Claim 1, ~~having~~ further comprising:

- (a) a polyvinyl pyrrolidone sieving coefficient of 45% or more in a filtration test using a polyvinyl pyrrolidone aqueous solution with a weight average molecular weight of 40,000,
- (b) an albumin sieving coefficient of 0.6% or less in a filtrate test using bovine serum,
- (c) a protein adsorption amount of 65 mg/m² or less,
- (d) breaking strength of 60 kg/cm² or more, and
- (e) breaking elongation of 60% or more.

3.-4. (Canceled)

5. (currently Amended) The hollow fiber for blood purification according to ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, further ~~having~~ comprising:

~~(f) the~~ a polyvinyl pyrrolidone concentration in the hollow fiber membrane between 3.0 and 5.0 wt%.

6. (Currently Amended) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to Claim 1, ~~having~~ wherein an over mass transfer coefficient of phosphorous is 0.040 cm/mm or greater.

7. (Currently Amended) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 1, further comprising ~~having:~~ ~~(f) the~~ (g) a thickness of ~~the~~ a dense layer ~~of 1-5 μ m~~ between 1 and 5 μ m.

8. (Currently Amended) A blood purification apparatus comprising the hollow fiber membrane according to claim 1, installed in a cylindrical container having two nozzles for flowing a dialysate, the cylindrical container having both ends fabricated with a potting material for separating the hollow inside of the membrane from the outside by a membrane wall and the cylindrical container further having a header cap for flowing blood fitted on both ends.

9. (Currently Amended) The blood purification apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the hollow fiber membrane has ~~the~~ a phosphorus clearance of at least 180 ml/min per a membrane area of 1.5 m² ~~per membrane area of 1.5 m² of 180 ml/min or more.~~

10. (New) The hollow fiber for blood purification according to claim 2, further comprising:

(f) a polyvinyl pyrrolidone concentration in the hollow fiber membrane between 3.0 and 5.0 wt%.

11. (New) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 2, wherein an over mass transfer coefficient of phosphorous is 0.040 cm/mm or greater.

12. (New) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 5, wherein an over mass transfer coefficient of phosphorous is 0.040 cm/mm or greater.

13 (New) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 2, further comprising: (g) a thickness of a dense layer of 1-5 μm .

14 (New) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 5, further comprising: a thickness of a dense layer of 1-5 μm .

15 (New) The hollow fiber membrane for blood purification according to claim 6, further comprising: a thickness of a dense layer of 1-5 μm .

16 (New) A blood purification apparatus comprising the hollow fiber membrane according to claim 2, installed in a cylindrical container having two nozzles for flowing a dialysate, the cylindrical container having both ends fabricated with a potting material for

separating the hollow inside of the membrane from the outside by a membrane wall and the cylindrical container further having a header cap for flowing blood fitted on both ends.

17 (New) A blood purification apparatus comprising the hollow fiber membrane according to claim 5, installed in a cylindrical container having two nozzles for flowing a dialysate, the cylindrical container having both ends fabricated with a potting material for separating the hollow inside of the membrane from the outside by a membrane wall and the cylindrical container further having a header cap for flowing blood fitted on both ends.

18 (New) A blood purification apparatus comprising the hollow fiber membrane according to claim 6, installed in a cylindrical container having two nozzles for flowing a dialysate, the cylindrical container having both ends fabricated with a potting material for separating the hollow inside of the membrane from the outside by a membrane wall and the cylindrical container further having a header cap for flowing blood fitted on both ends.

19 (New) A blood purification apparatus comprising the hollow fiber membrane according to claim 7, installed in a cylindrical container having two nozzles for flowing a dialysate, the cylindrical container having both ends fabricated with a potting material for separating the hollow inside of the membrane from the outside by a membrane wall and the cylindrical container further having a header cap for flowing blood fitted on both ends.

20. (New) The blood purification apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the hollow fiber membrane has a phosphorus clearance of at least 180 ml/min per a membrane area of 1.5 m².